

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 - 68 (Canceled)

69. (Currently Amended): A system for providing real-time ratings to users, comprising:

means for collecting real-time ratings information based on the activities of at least one users at user television equipment at a plurality of locations; and means for displaying the real-time ratings information on the at least one user's television equipment in real time.

70. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame for the real-time ratings.

71. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises means for

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this hour
for the real-time ratings.

72. (Original): The system defined in claim 70
wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining
the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises means for
providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this
evening for the real-time ratings.

73. (Original): The system defined in claim 70
wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining
the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises means for
providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of today for
the real-time ratings.

74. (Original): The system defined in claim 70
wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining
the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises
means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of
this week for the real-time ratings.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

75. (Original): The system defined in claim 70 wherein the means for providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises means for providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this instant for the real-time ratings.

76. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting a geographic area for the real-time ratings, wherein selecting a geographic area defines a list of users.

77. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting a genre for the real-time ratings.

78. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for television programs.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

79. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for applications.

80. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for non-program-guide applications.

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cont.
81. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for video games.

82. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time television program ratings.

83. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time video game ratings.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

84. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this evening.

85. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for displaying the real-time ratings information comprises means for displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this instant.

86. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 further comprising means for allowing each user to select which type of real-time ratings are displayed.

87. (Currently Amended): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for collecting the real-time ratings information comprises means for collecting information on whether a muting function is used when certain programs are watched.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

88. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the means for collecting the real-time ratings information comprises means for collecting information on whether any portion of the video of a program is blocked as that program is watched.

89. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the system further comprising means for selecting one of the programs to purchase.

90. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the system further comprising means for selecting one of the programs to set a reminder for that program.

91. (Original): The system defined in claim 69 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the system further comprising means for selecting one of the programs to record.

Appln. No. 09/119,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

92. (Currently Amended) A method for providing real-time ratings to users, comprising the steps of:

collecting real-time ratings information based on the activities of at least one users at user television equipment at a plurality of locations; and

displaying the real-time ratings information on the at least one user's television equipment in real time.

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cont.
93. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame for the real-time ratings.

94. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this hour for the real-time ratings.

95. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises the step of

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this evening for the real-time ratings.

96. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of today for the real-time ratings.

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97. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this week for the real-time ratings.

98. (Original): The method defined in claim 93 wherein the step of providing the opportunity for defining the time frame for the real-time ratings further comprises the step of providing an opportunity for defining a time frame of this instant for the real-time ratings.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

99. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting a geographic area for the real-time ratings, wherein selecting a geographic area defines a list of users.

100. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting a genre for the real-time ratings.

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cont.
101. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for television programs.

102. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for applications.

103. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

selecting whether the real-time ratings are for non-program-guide applications.

104. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of providing an opportunity for selecting whether the real-time ratings are for video games.

105. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time television program ratings.

106. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time video game ratings.

107. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this evening.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

108. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of displaying the real-time ratings information comprises the step of displaying real-time ratings for a time period of this instant.

109. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 further comprising the step of allowing each user to select which type of real-time ratings are displayed.

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cont.
110. (Currently Amended): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of collecting the real-time ratings information comprises the step of collecting information on whether a muting function is used when certain programs are watched.

111. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the step of collecting the real-time ratings information comprises the step of collecting information on whether any portion of the video of a program is blocked as that program is being watched.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

112. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the method further comprising the step of selecting one of the programs to purchase.

113. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the method further comprising the step of selecting one of the programs to set a reminder for that program.

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cont.
114. (Original): The method defined in claim 92 wherein the real-time ratings information comprises a list of programs, the method further comprising the step of selecting one of the programs to record.

115. (Currently Amended): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide; and

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

means for receiving at least one user selection
in the interactive television program guide which displays a
program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which
program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive
television program guide based on the selections received from
the user; and

means for collecting information on the
frequency with which program guide display screens are
displayed.

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Cont.

116. (Currently Amended): A method for using a
system in which an interactive television program guide is
implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps
of:

displaying program guide display screens on the
user television equipment with the interactive television
program guide; and

receiving at least one user selection in the
interactive television program guide which displays a program
guide display screen;

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

collecting information on the frequency with which program guide display screens are displayed.

117. (Currently Amended): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

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cont.
means for providing an opportunity for a user to use select non-program-guide applications for use on the user television equipment; and

means for receiving at least one user selection for a non-program-guide application;

means for collecting information with the interactive television program guide on which non-program guide applications are ~~used~~ selected for use by the user on the user television equipment; and

means for collecting information with the interactive television program guide on how the non-program guide applications are invoked.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

118. (Currently Amended): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

providing an opportunity for a user to use select non-program-guide applications for use on the user television equipment; and

receiving at least one user selection for a non-program-guide application;

collecting information with the interactive television program guide on which non-program guide applications are used selected for use by the user on the user television equipment; and

collecting information with the interactive television program guide on how the non-program guide applications are invoked.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

119. (New): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

means for receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

means for collecting information on the duration that the program guide screens are displayed.

120. (New): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

displaying program guide display screens on the
user television equipment with the interactive television
program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the
interactive television program guide which displays a program
guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide
display screens are displayed in the interactive television
program guide based on the selections received from the user;
and

collecting information on the duration that the
program guide screens are displayed.

121. (New): A system in which an interactive
television program guide is implemented on user television
equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display
screens on the user television equipment with the interactive
television program guide;

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

means for receiving at least one user selection
in the interactive television program guide which displays a
program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which
program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive
television program guide based on the selections received from
the user; and

means for collecting information on whether the
user interacts with the program guide.

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Cont.
122. (New): A method for using a system in which
an interactive television program guide is implemented on user
television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the
user television equipment with the interactive television
program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the
interactive television program guide which displays a program
guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide
display screens are displayed in the interactive television

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

program guide based on the selections received from the user;
and

collecting information on whether the user
interacts with the program guide.

123. (New): A system in which an interactive
television program guide is implemented on user television
equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display
screens on the user television equipment with the interactive
television program guide;

means for receiving at least one user selection
in the interactive television program guide which displays a
program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which
program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive
television program guide based on the selections received from
the user; and

means for collecting information on whether the
mute function is used.

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

124. (New): A method for using a system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the interactive television program guide which displays a program guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive television program guide based on the selections received from the user; and

collecting information on whether the mute function is used.

125. (New): A system in which an interactive television program guide is implemented on user television equipment, comprising:

means for displaying program guide display screens on the user television equipment with the interactive television program guide;

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

means for receiving at least one user selection
in the interactive television program guide which displays a
program guide display screen;

means for collecting information on which
program guide display screens are displayed in the interactive
television program guide based on the selections received from
the user; and

means for collecting information on whether
screen overlays are present.

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cont.

126. (New): A method for using a system in which
an interactive television program guide is implemented on user
television equipment, comprising the steps of:

displaying program guide display screens on the
user television equipment with the interactive television
program guide;

receiving at least one user selection in the
interactive television program guide which displays a program
guide display screen;

collecting information on which program guide
display screens are displayed in the interactive television

Appln. No. 09/139,798
Amdt. Dated August 27, 2003
Reply to Office Action of Feb. 27, 2003

program guide based on the selections received from the user;

and

collecting information on whether screen

overlays are present.

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